

# Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

*"Learn from yesterday,  
live for today, hope for  
tomorrow." ~ Albert  
Einstein*

*Friday, October 9, 2009*

At the ICA Conference this week, Commissioner Buss presented Commissioner's Awards to the following: William Wilson and Alan Chapman, Co-Superintendents of the Year; Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility, Facility of the Year; Bruce Lemmon, Distinguished Service Award; Debra Fealy, Employee of the Year; Connie Hedges, Chaplain of the Year; Richard Davis, Rising Star Award; Vickie Conquest, Parole Employee of the Year; Linda Jeffers, Case Management Employee of the Year; Captain Herman Kelley, Supervisor of the Year; Jeff Pitcher, Correctional Professional of the Year; Alisia Lawrence, Administrative Support Award; Alan Montgomery, Finance Employee of the Year; Bob Gipson, Physical Plant Employee of the Year; and Kathy Goss, Human Resources Employee of the Year. Congratulations to all!

PEN Products Director Mike Herron and PEN's Operations Manager Doug Evans participated in the National Institute of Corrections live satellite/internet broadcast, "Innovative Re-entry Strategies: The Emerging Role of Correctional Industries." Commissioner Buss and Dr. John Nally appeared and discussed correctional industries and collaboration.

IWP's Community Outreach Department sent out 65 quilted blankets, 40 children's hat and scarf sets, 10 stuffed animals, and 6 children's quilts to the Indiana Chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America.

Miami Correctional hosted a Straight Talk Program, with three offenders speaking to 15 students and a teacher from Clinton Central High School. The program focuses on making good choices and the consequences of bad choices.

Last week, Indianapolis Juvenile staff donated blood to the American Red Cross, donating enough to benefit 57 lives.

Wabash Valley minimum-security offenders helped clear a large bank for the Sullivan County 8<sup>th</sup> graders' annual excursion down the Wabash River. The trip, sponsored by the Sullivan County Soil and Water Conservation District, included guide State Senator John Waterman, who requested the bank clearing.

Alexandra More from the Scotland State Hospital has been observing Westville Correctional facility's "Prison Tails" dog program. Ms. More's dog therapy research is funded by the Winston Churchill grant.

CIF's Garden produced a total of 3,061.5 lbs of vegetables this year for the Christian Center in Anderson, Indiana.

Logansport Juvenile recently took third place overall in the Cass County Family YMCA Corporate Challenge.

Miami Correctional Facility administrators hosted a first-of-its-kind meeting, nicknamed "Bridge the Gap," with law enforcement officials, mayors, and community representatives from four area counties attending. The meeting was the first in a series to try and find solutions to help make an offender's release back to the community a success.

Pendleton Correctional Facility held a ceremony for twenty offenders who completed the Inside Out Dad Program.

The staff "10-10" softball team and the offender "All Stars" team faced off during a softball game at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The All Stars, coached by Recreation Supervisor Jeff Newton, took first place with a score of 13-9.

Following the recent blood drive, members of Rockville Correctional's Unit Team and Intake and Classification departments will be treated to a pizza party hosted by the Employee Appreciation Committee. Thirty-five donors visited the blood mobile, competing on teams for the pizza party.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility offenders earned \$93.66 by collecting pop cans, so they donated the money to Black Pines Animal Park, a professional animal retirement retreat in Albion, Indiana.

For the second year in a row, Los Angeles country/blues recording artist Heather Waters, daughter of Officer M. Manista, gave a performance in the Indiana State Prison's chapel for the offender general population and staff members.

Congratulations to Richard Brown, Assistant Superintendent of Operations at Rockville Correctional Facility, for competing in the Wabash Valley Race for the Cure 5K. He finished second place in his category. Other staff members joined in the 5K non-competitive and one-mile fun run/walk.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility "Wheels for the World" wheelchair refurbishing operation reconditioned 13 wheelchairs during September. 168 chairs have been refurbished and prepared for donation since January 1<sup>st</sup>.

*From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner*